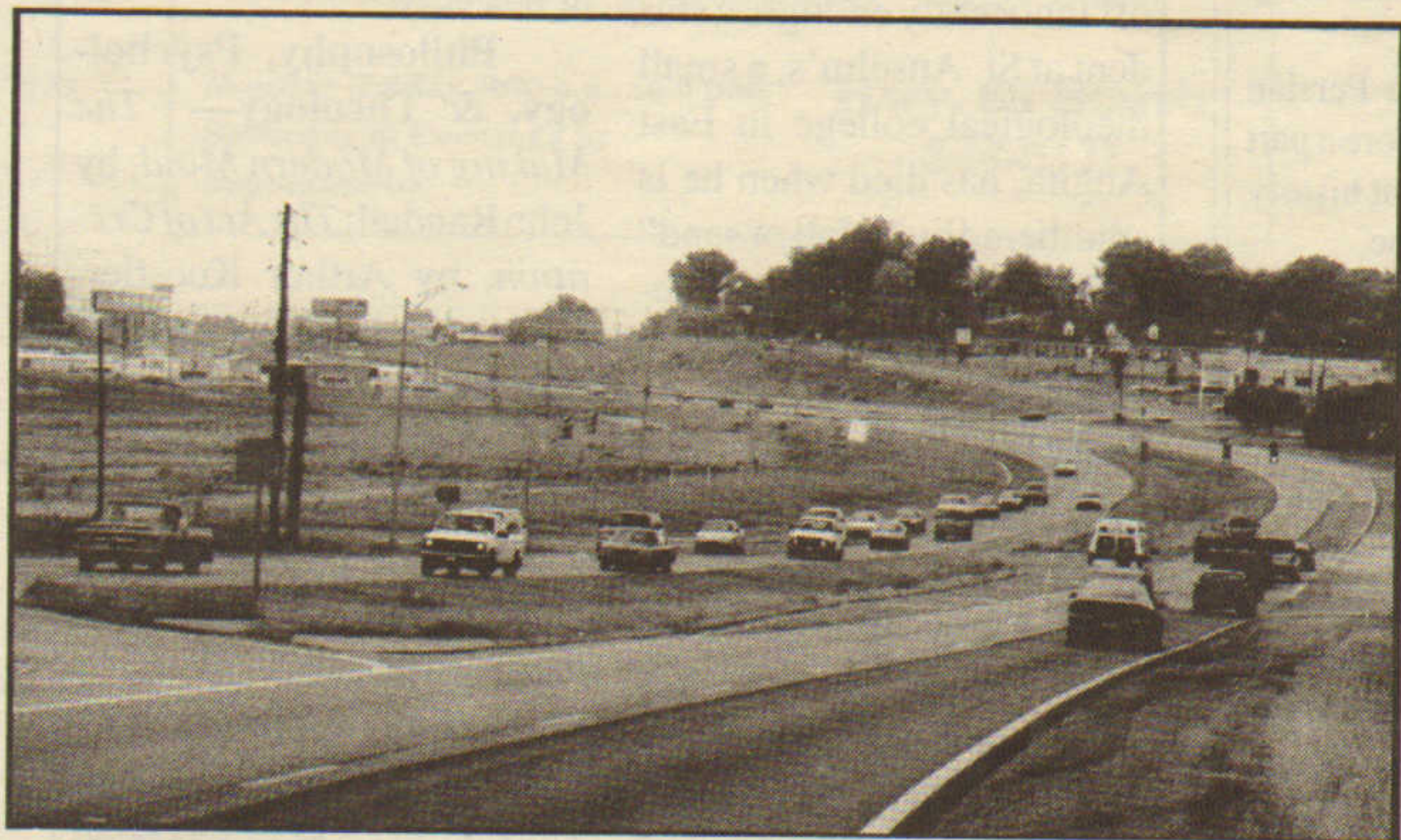


“Building Our Sense of Community”

Shelton State Courier

New Series Vol. 5, Number 10 Shelton State Community College July 26, 2001 - Aug. 30, 2001

What's down the road for Hwy. 69?



This view of Hwy. 69 South shows the charm of nature combined with the irresistible force of business development Photo by Derik Williams

The first of a two-part series

By Ben Herdman

It may seem a little strange to the newcomer to Taylorville that there are three oil change services located within one-half mile of one another, as well as two full-sized grocery centers standing in the same general vicinity. But what these businesses in their proliferation really stand for is the near future of Highway 69 South. This highway continues to form the pathway of one of the fastest growing areas in Tuscaloosa County.

Since the rebirths of Hillcrest High School and Shelton State Community College in the mid-1990s, an entire new blend of families and transient students has been brought to the community on Highway 69 S.

The West Alabama Chamber of Commerce reports that the traffic count on 69 South has climbed about 50 percent over the past four years, and the Alabama State Highway Department is racing to make the area more accessible as new businesses rush into the open market.

Currently, the highway department is four-laning the stretch of Hwy. 69 that lies between Taylorville and Moundville. The widening of the highway will open up many possibilities for the business community as well as stimulate further residential growth.

Several new projects are in the making. Residents of 69 South will see a Willy T's Chicken Fingers, McDonald's, and a Ryan's Family Steakhouse open in the near future, besides such retailers as CVS, which is already going up.

Also underway is Taylorville's first health care service facility. The new walk-in/walk-out "doc in the box" will

be manned by four of Tuscaloosa's well-respected physicians. The construction of the health care facility is scheduled to begin within the next few weeks, according to Stan Pate, the owner of one of Alabama's largest commercial land development companies.

Pate has about 25 percent of his company's resources invested into the growth of 69 South. He has watched the steady development of the area over the last 10 years, from fields of green to pavement and bright lights.

"I have been committed to the 69 South area for ten years, now," said Pate, who is also a candidate for governor of Alabama. Pate real estate signs have shot up like wildflowers throughout the area.

"We've got a good K-12 system generating residential growth, and you've

Hwy. 69 cont'd on pg. 3

Courier Student Poll

52% of Shelton State students feel that the recent development of Hwy. 69 thus far has been done in a way that makes the area more attractive and appealing.

50% would like to see more restaurants on Hwy. 69

71% of students said if they could live anywhere in Tuscaloosa County they would *not* choose to live in the Hwy. 69 area.

The poll clearly shows that while students are split on whether or not the development has improved the look and charm of this particular stretch of Hwy. 69, most seem to agree they do not wish to live in this area.

Evidently, students are torn about what they would like to see on the highway. If not more restaurants, then what?

The secret of how to develop the college area is waiting to be revealed; and those who discover it, have riches awaiting them.

Courier Student Poll
by Blair Bateman

College finally sells old campus

By Kristin Falls

Recently, the old Shelton State campus property was sold after a number of years.

The land and building had been on the market since 1994 and because of the sale, Shelton State will be moving in a new direction.

The Skyland campus was finally purchased by the Goodrich Federal Credit Union on July 23, 2001 and sold for a total of \$1.45 million.

Attempts to contact the Goodrich Federal Credit Union to find out the company will do with the old campus were unsuccessful.

According to Shelton President Rick Rogers, the money from the sale of this property will go toward a

bond issue which was used to build the new campus.

Shelton will first pay off debts, but the students and faculty will soon see changes and improvements around campus. Rogers said he hopes to ex-

pand the area around the pond to make it more accessible for everyone. He added that money might be spent on outdoor furnishings, creating a new place for students and faculty to enjoy lunch and take breaks between

classes and activities.

Some have expressed concern about the appearance and development of Hwy. 69 around Shelton State. As far as the general direction taken, Dr. Rogers said the development would be upscale. In addition, federal grants will go toward adding trees and grass along the highway to give it a more pleasant look.



The college has sold its Skyland campus

*Sheltoniana Which Can
Be Found Nowhere Else*

Inside

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Back to School

By Carol Y. Collins-Miller

History was always an insignificant course for me. As a teenager I didn't care much about the world before me. I was trying too hard to understand the important issues like my acne. I mean, I could understand the need for math, English and most other subjects, but the only instance I could imagine history being important was if I appeared on "Jeopardy."

Then, as fate would have it, I joined the Army. I toured many interesting places: Hawaii, Germany, Portugal and much of mainland USA. Eventually, I found myself in Saudi Arabia, facing a conflict be-

tween Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Iraq!

There I was in the desert surrounded by countries known for fighting, like Lebanon, Israel, Iran, Pakistan and this list goes on.

These people have been fighting for centuries over religion, territory, oil and governmental issues. Many frightening thoughts filled my head. I had no idea where I was on the map. How far was the USA? Every time I fell asleep, I had this dream that I was running through the desert alone at night. I was trying to find a safe place.

The conflict started and I was frantic. Bombs were bursting all around us. Missiles zooming over head and chemical alarms sent everyone scrambling for protection continuously. One missile hit the barracks where my unit stayed only a few weeks earlier and there were U.S. casualties. This was a war!

Fortunately, by God's grace and Uncle Sam's guidance my entire unit made it safely home. And, as for that old cliché, if I had it to do all over again... I'm just thankful I don't.

Webster defines history as a chronological list of past events. I personally like to break the word down, his/story. Every person, place and thing has a history, a story.

I witnessed the Persian Gulf war. I am therefore a part of that history and that history is forever a part of me.

History teaches us many things that may enlighten, educate or just entertain us. So as you journey through life, take a serious interest in the history of the people and places around you. It may help you to make more informed decisions about the choices that you make along the way.

Off the Shelf...

New works available in the Brooks-Cork Library

By Glen Johnson

On the Best-Seller Shelf...

P.D. James's latest, *Death in Holy Orders*, starts off innocently enough: a student at St. Anselm's, a small theological college in East Anglia, has died when he is smothered by "a fall of sand" at the nearby seashore. Detective Commander Adam Dalgliesh is brought in to investigate this innocuous departure (the deceased is the son of major businessman and muckety-muck Sir Alred Treves). No sooner has Dalgliesh arrived, than murder most horrifying and sacrilegious rears its ugly head at the college.

In what is being predicted to become a classic, Jimmy Carter's autobiographical *An Hour Before Daylight* is sure to entertain with his insightful descriptions of his boyhood in Depression-era Georgia.

Scarlet Feathers by Maeve Binchy follows the ups and downs of Tom Feather and Cathy Scarlet, two beginning caterers, during their first year together as they try to break into the business in Dublin. Binchy at her best.

Philosophy, Psychology, & Theology— *The Making of Modern Mind*, by John Randall; *The Act of Creation*, by Arthur Koestler; *Within Reason*, by Donald B. Calne.

World History—*Days of Infamy*, by Michael Coffey; *The Pity of War*, by Niall Ferguson; *Pius XII and the Second World War*, by Pierre Blet; *A Nation Collapses*, by Elena Aga Rossi; *The Battle of Kursk*, by David M. Glantz.

Business—*Mastering Real Estate Principle*, by Gerald R. Cortesi; *Generations at Work*, by Ron Zemke; *360 Degree Feedback*, by Mark R. Edwards; *What Workers Want*, by Richard B. Freeman.

Future Issues

This is the tenth *Courier* of the year. We will publish twice each month in September, October and November. One per month is set for August, December and January, 2002. Let us know what you would like to know about Shelton by calling the publisher at 391-2278 or the *Courier* editorial office at 391-2406.

"Keep Looking Up!"

By Dr. Lee Albritton



Sagittarius and Scorpius

Summer's two most familiar constellations—Sagittarius and Scorpius—can be easily located by simply looking south about an hour after sunset. As Earth orbits the Sun, it means that we see different constellations at different times during the year.

These two constellations are side by side with Sagittarius on the left and Scorpius on the right.

Sagittarius is officially an archer, but its brightest stars take on the shape of a perfect teapot. The bottom of the tea-

pot is parallel to the horizon, with its spout on the right and its handle on the left. The top of the teapot is triangular.

If you are observing from a fairly dark spot, you will notice a hazy streak above Sagittarius; this is the Milky Way—our flat spiral galaxy. This can be easily remembered by thinking of the Milky Way as steam coming out of the spout of the teapot. When you look at the Milky Way in the direction of Sagittarius, you are looking at the very center of the galaxy.

Scorpius is a scorpion with

its head on the right; its long body and curved tail, complete with a V-shaped stinger is on the left. In the upper part of the scorpion's body is its brightest star—Antares—which has a reddish color and really twinkles.

Both Sagittarius and Scorpius are on the ecliptic—the plane the planets are in as they orbit the Sun. The ecliptic runs through the twelve constellations that we commonly call the zodiac.

In the next two months, Mars will travel between these two constellations. So get outside, and keep looking up during the late summer.

This newspaper is printed by
M&M Printing
in Aliceville, Ala. (800) 367-7891

Shelton State Courier

Editor: Jenifer Wallace

Photographer: Jenny Tucker

Staff Writers: Members of the MCM 102—Introduction to Media Writing—class

Publisher: Dr. Jim Kenny

Business Manager: Christy Sparks

The *Shelton State Courier* is a "campus newspaper" written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression and all students

are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper:

"The college seeks to provide an atmosphere conducive to open and honest intellectual inquiry in any college forum which is appropriate for dialogue and student participation. The students should feel free to exercise the right to dissent within limits of decorum and good taste."

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

Hwy 69 cont'd from pg. 1



got a community college and fire college bringing a whole different volume of customers to the south side of town. And we're going to take advantage of all these services," Pate said.

Some of the potential customers travelling the highway have expressed concern that the development of the area may be a bit out of control. They point to the fact that the area seems to specialize in oil change facilities more than anything else. For developer Pate, this isn't a problem. "Well, it kind of surprised me to have three within a mile of my office, but it's a good business. If you can provide a service, and you can provide it efficiently, you can reduce the cost. Competition is good. It drives the price down, and then drives the quality of the service up. I predict very few or no failures down 69," Pate said.

Pate does have concerns about the direction of growth and speaks at length



Is Taylorville the Oil Change Capital of the South?

about his desire to work with state and federal authorities to make the area more attractive. "I have offered to the city of Tuscaloosa to put up \$50,000 of matching money if they would make applications to the federal government for landscaping grants."

Make no mistake, though. Pate wants to bring more thriving businesses to the area. "It's exciting," he said, "and we're changing at a much faster pace than ever before." Pate added that the biggest developments are yet to come.



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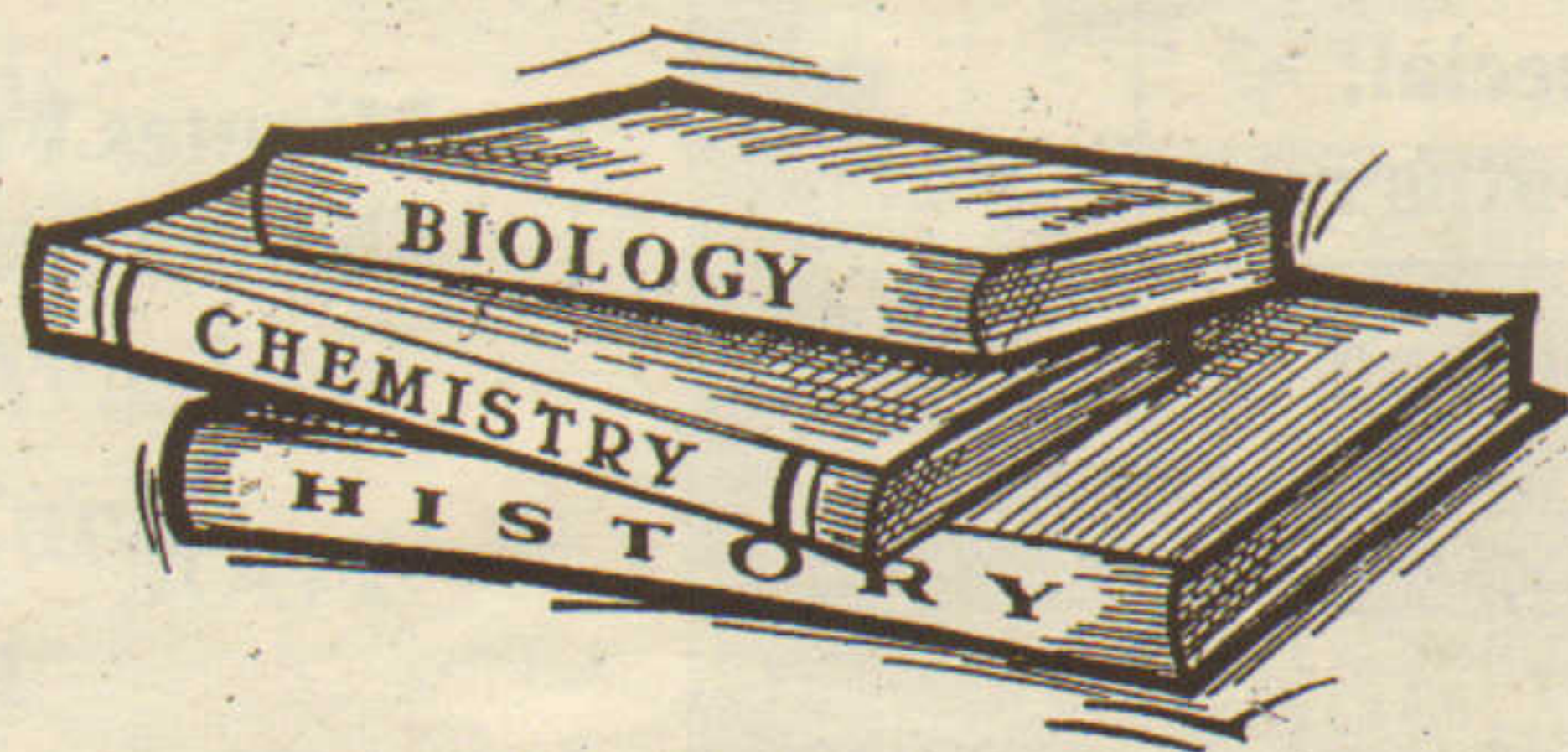
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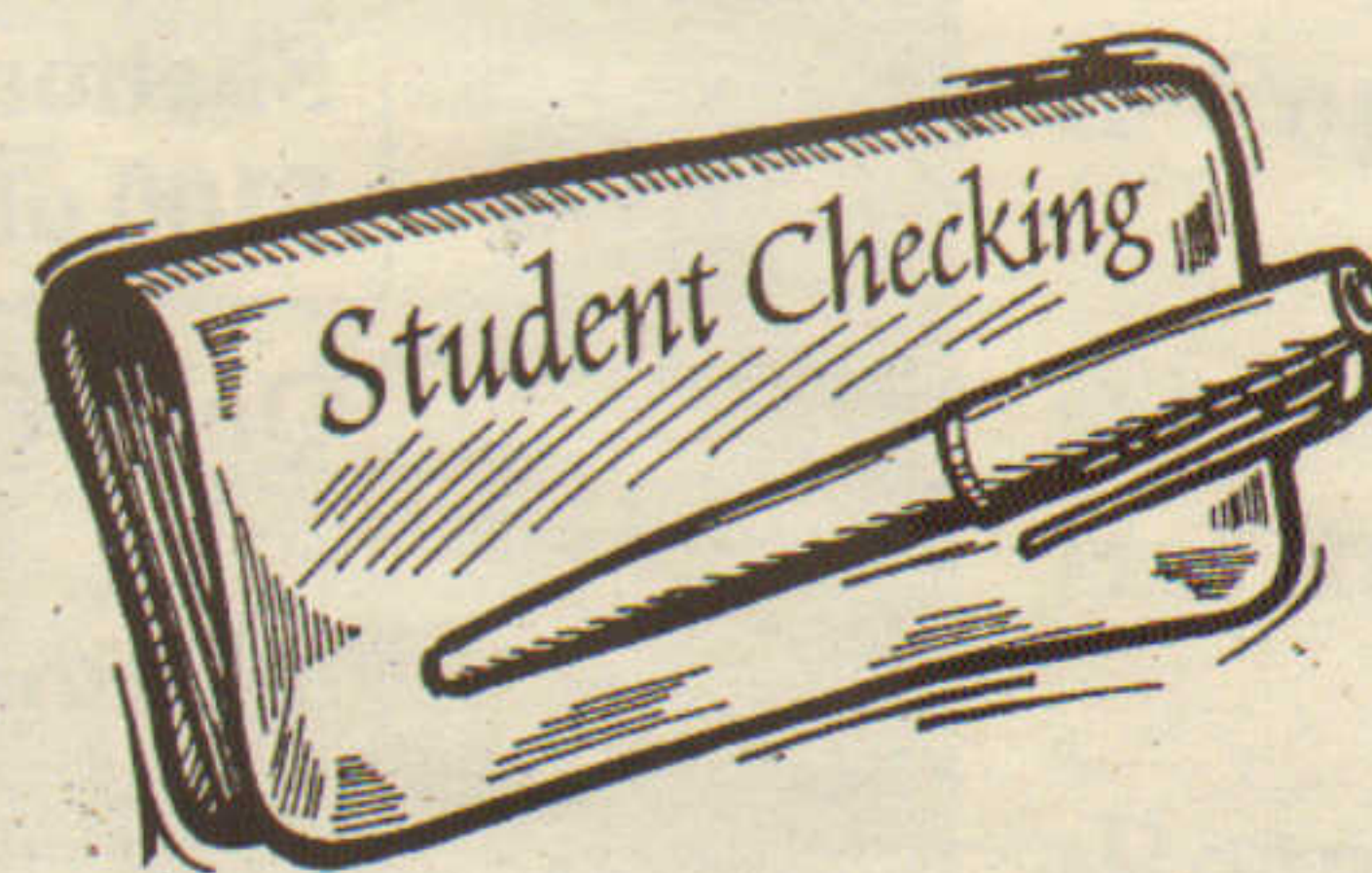
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Sports

—The Buccaneers are Here to Play—



Nellie Barnes Christian named full-time head soccer coach

By D.J. Stewart

The Shelton State soccer team is getting prepped for the fall season. The soccer team is looking to continue the momentum of last season's 13-5-2 finish, which was not too shabby for only their fourth year of existence.

Shelton State is the only junior college in Alabama that supports a women's soccer team. Shelton has looked to boost their support of the women's soccer team by adding a full-time coach to the athletic staff. After a long review of coaches and resumes the full-time position went to Nellie Barnes, now Nellie Christian.

Christian has been coaching since the age of 16, and has been with the Shelton State Bucs for the past three years as the part-time head coach. Before

joining the Shelton State coaching staff, Christian played collegiate soccer for both University of Minnesota and the University of Alabama. "I love the training part of coaching," says Christian "and just seeing it all come together on the field." Christian has trained and coached both girls' and boys' soccer teams.

The team will start its season in August and will continue through the fall. The lady Bucs will look to end their season in the National Junior College Athletic Association's national tournament, where they would represent not just Shelton State but also the state of Alabama.

Christian feels if the team continues to improve then they will be able to show well at the national tournament.

Barry Mohun named athletic director

Beginning in the fall, head basketball coach Barry Mohun will assume the duties of athletic director for Shelton State.

Mohun seems as interested in and concerned about the academic progress of the student-athletes in his program as he is the college's athletic success. "Whatever their academic goals are, we want to give them the best opportunity to succeed," Mohun said.

Mohun said the potential exists at Shelton to have a truly outstanding athletic program. "My job will be to build up the facilities and coaching staff to be second to none in the state."

As the athletic director of a community college, Mohun will have to



Barry Mohun

wear many hats. Day-to-day, Mohun will be busy with such activities as eligibility, budgets and fund-raising projects.

Mohun has a simple vision of his role. "I want to thank Dr. Rogers for giving me the opportunity to help make Shelton one of the top 25 community colleges in the nation. Athletics plays a part."

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Gouge O' Life

By Ben Herdman

The internet—the electronic savior of today's youth. Countless numbers of children and adults alike fall victim to the hypnotic toy everyday. The personal computer has replaced television as the "super information highway," as well as the "idiot box." The interactive boob tube is producing more and more boobs every time I turn around. It sickens me, truly.

Over the past several years I've seen the brightest people become engulfed in their computers. The big hype is in role-playing-games.

A game called Everquest is by far the largest brainwasher of them all. It has the Dungeons and Dragons essence to it; you create your own characters, build your own weapons, and run around killing people with magic spells.

Due to Everquest's addictive quality, the game is commonly referred to by net nerds as "Evercrack."

A close friend of mine has been an evercrack fiend for two years and shows few signs of recovery.

There he sits, glued to the monitor like a moth to a floodlight, completely desensitized and stupefied. His beady eyes shine with the high gloss one gets from endless hours spent in front of the glowing screen. I've tried many times to talk some sense into my zombied friend, but no success.

"Look at yourself!," I shouted from across the room. "Just look at you! You haven't bathed in weeks! You've even got bugs in your hair!" No reply. Not a word. I grabbed his bullhorn from his

fabulously cluttered room, and put it to his ear. "For God's sake man, snap out of it! Come back to life! Do something!" All I hear are cricket chirps. He remains still and silent.

Unfortunately, my friend's case is not rare. He is just one statistic of the Everquest epidemic that is sweeping the nation, and currently, there is no known cure for the disease. Thousands of Americans are sitting at home, six inches from their computer screens, having their brains scrubbed away by Everquest. They are all caught, hook, line and sinker. No wonder they call it "the net."

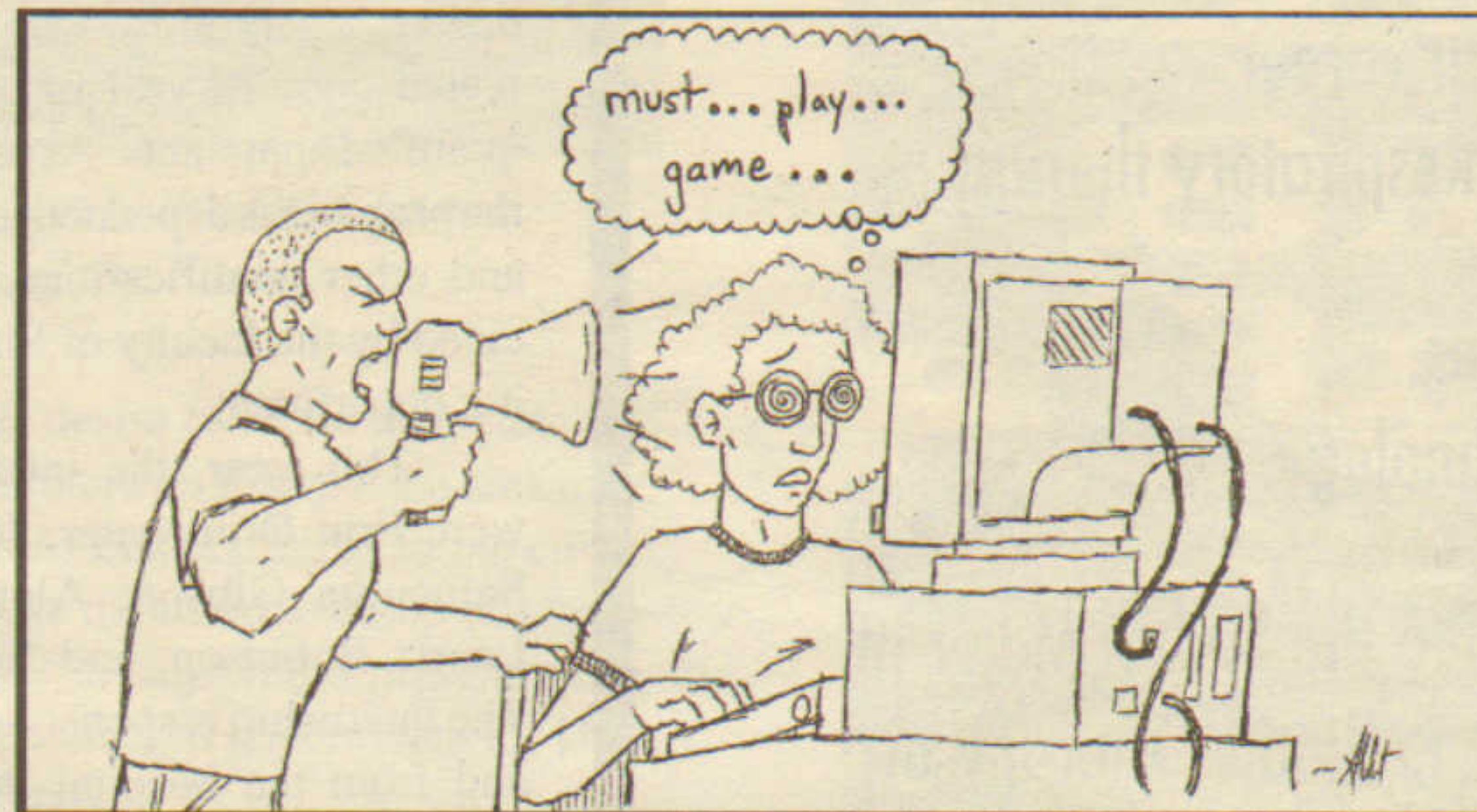


Illustration by Abbot

Animal Shelter is holding your friends

By Jahnavi Aziz

Dealing with newfound stress and living away from home for the first time can often make college students lonely or uncomfortable in their surroundings. New responsibilities become challenging, and you might grow to miss the comforts you had at home. Filling this void with a cat or dog might ease struggle of adjusting to college life.

If you're searching for a new loving pet for your home, The Tuscaloosa Animal Shelter located at 510 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. is a great place to start. The animal shelter's staff also offers great advice on steps to take when losing a pet.

Linda Workman, an employee at the animal shelter, feels the shelter is the best place to find a pet because, "These

Shelter cont'd on pg. 6

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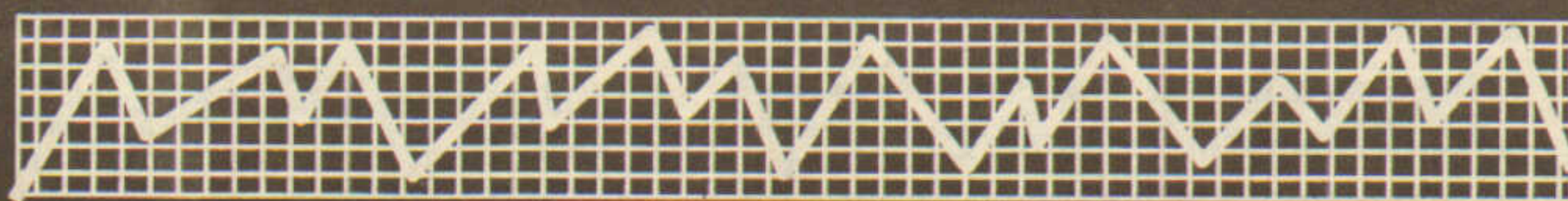
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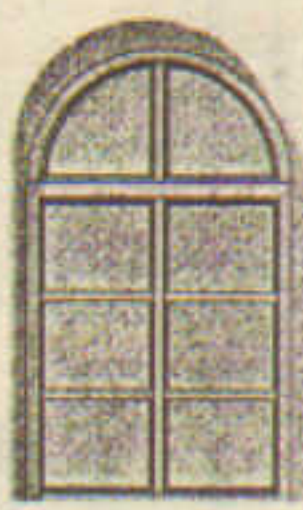
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Nursing initiates innovative internships

By Destini Woods

Shelton State nursing students are now given the opportunity to work hands-on at Druid City Hospital, performing the duties of professional nurses.

Starting last year, a summer internship program was offered to Shelton students seeking their associate's degree. Only those who have completed one full year of clinicals are qualified applicants. Acceptance into the program is dependent upon grades and other qualifications, and is decided by the faculty of Shelton nursing department.

This year, the interns chosen were Erin Drinkwater, Joyce Dyer, Samantha Gibson, Alem Kidane, Laurie Robinson, and Julie Zheng. The internship is sponsored by DCH, and from the hospital the students receive tuition paid in full, as well as a stipend.

The benefits are well deserved. The girls dedicate 40 hours a week under the supervision of the instructor, Jackie Williams. For the first seven weeks of the program, the hours were 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and, starting in late July, 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.

On Friday, the students attend an I.V. therapy class. Williams said

she is very proud of the hard work and dedication these girls have applied.

"I never realized how much responsibility came with the job," said Robinson. "After this, there is no more questioning what you want to do for a living."

The entire experience has been quite a reality check for the girls. According to Erin Drinkwater, the practice has been incredibly valuable. "We have all learned so much, and this experience helps us to get our foot in the door," she said. Each of the girls is assigned her own floor to work. They do all the work themselves, and Williams supervises, roaming from floor to floor.

According to Gladys Hill, the director of nursing at Shelton, the internship not only provides financial and experience benefits, but also allows the students the opportunity to put their education into practice, improving clinical skills and critical thinking. "It is a win-win situation for the hospital, the school, and the students," says Hill. The hospital benefits in that, upon graduation, these students are trained through experience and are already familiar with the facility, ready for hire.

Animal cont'd from pg. 5

dogs have nobody, and the shelter is their last stop. The amount of strays in Tuscaloosa alone is incredible. It is easy to get a pure bred dog. These dogs were never asked to be born."

The first concern when an animal goes to the shelter is health. Adoptable dogs are held 24 hours for health and temperament reasons or if they are too young to be adopted. Animals are taken care of as soon as they arrive at the shelter.

According to Workman, puppies receive their "six and one shots," bordatella for kennel cough, and are dewormed. Cats and kittens receive the svrcp vaccine and are dewormed. There is also additional testing offered once the animal is adopted. The shelter also appreciates any help, so if you are interested in volunteering contact Linda Workman, or Kelly Strickland at (205) 345-7996.

The shelter has started charging a

spay neutered deposit of \$50 when an animal is adopted. When owners bring back the animal to get fixed they get their money back, "This is to ensure they get fixed and there are no more unwanted litters," Workman explains.

Many people experience the pain of having their pet be lost. But the Animal Shelter says there are things you can do when that occurs. The first thing you should do is "come to the Shelter," Workman says. Citizens and animal-control will usually bring a lost pet to the Shelter. Most importantly, always keep an identification tag on your pet, says Workman.

A lost-and-found hotline is available; contact (205) 349-8538.

Adoptions are down this summer, so please go to the animal shelter to see if your new pet—and friend—can be found.

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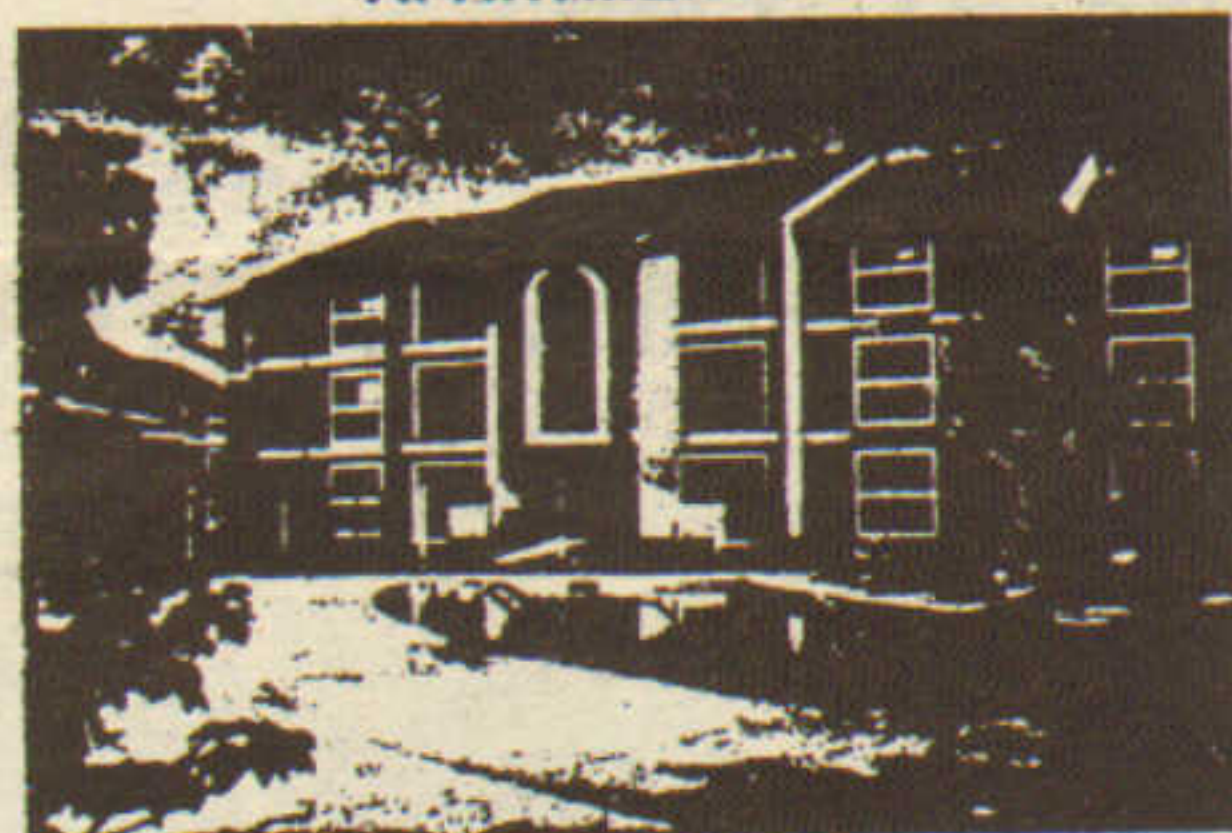
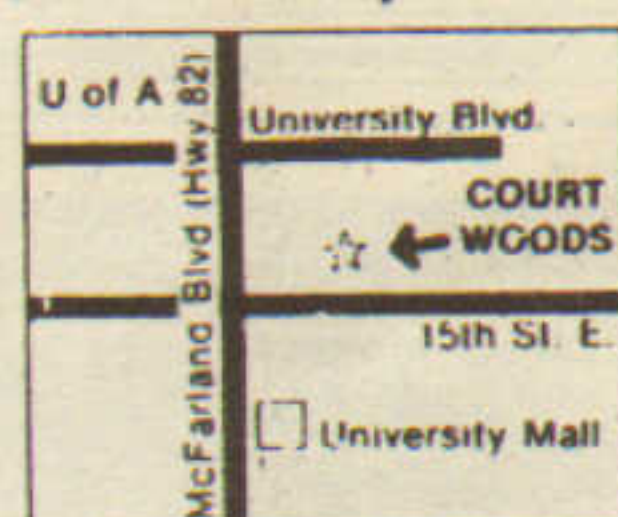
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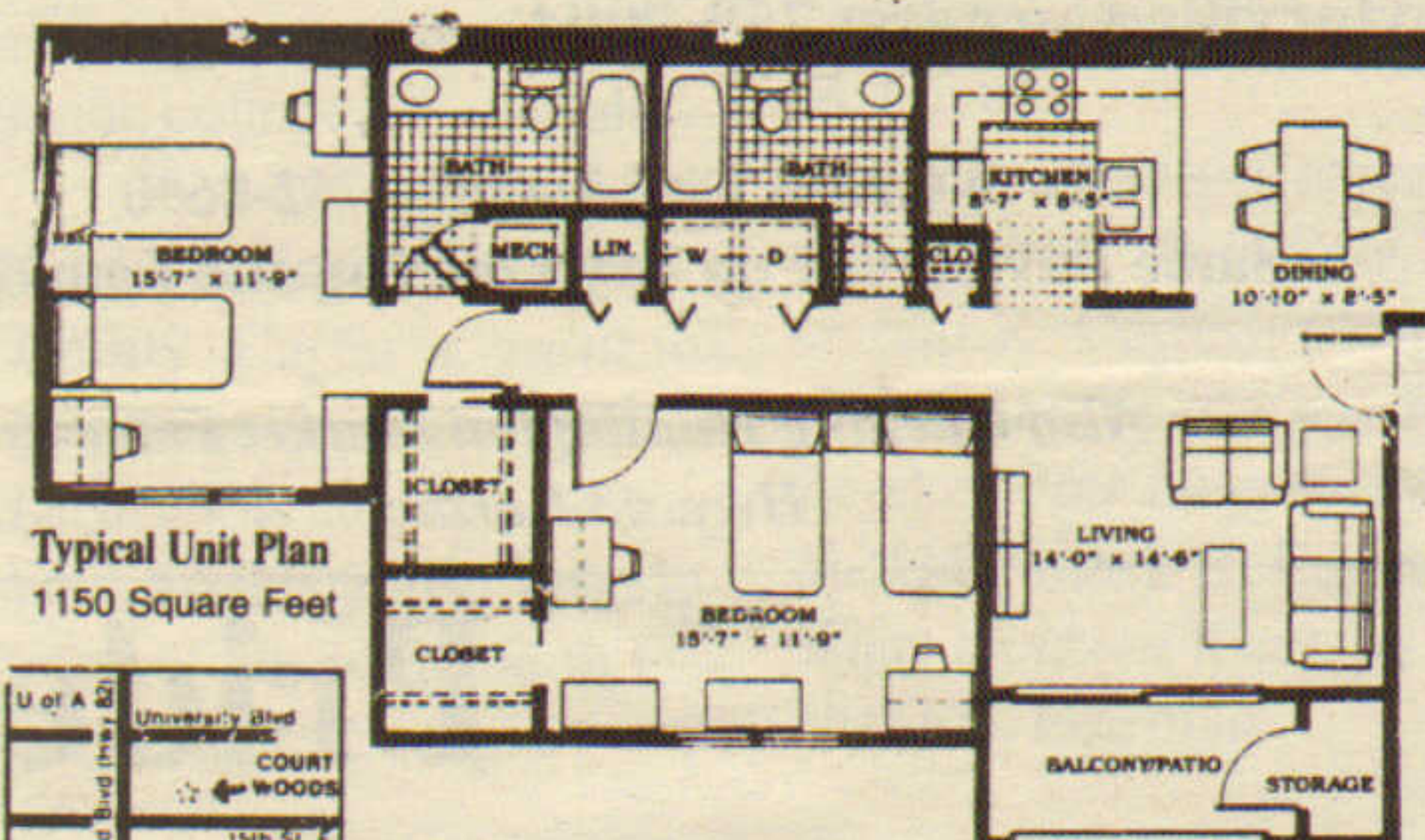
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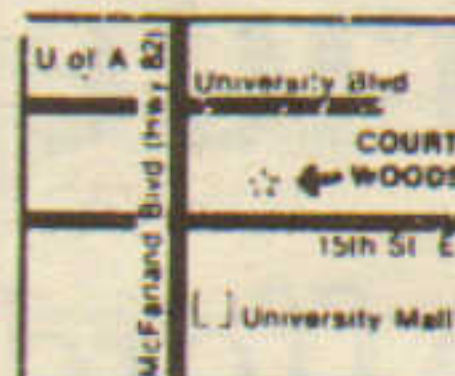
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